THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) At present, only the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has framed regulations, which were last revised in the year 2005, for the entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions for imparting technical education in India. A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions, seeking, among other things, prevention of the entry of sub-standard educational institutions, is under consideration of the Government.

Academic Imbalance in some regions

†*250. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to those regions of the country where for want of basic and technical educational institutions, students are being deprived of proper education;

(b) if so, details of the regions where technical institutions are not available till now, State-wise; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to overcome academic imbalance in those regions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) In order to ensure that students are not deprived of basic education, the Government has put in place the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for universalisation of Elementary education in the country.

According to the information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Union Territories (UT) of Andaman and Nicobar, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and the State of Nagaland, do not have an AICTE approved degree level technical institution. The UT of Lakshadweep does not have an AICTE approved diploma level techical institution. The AICTE which accords approval for the Establishment of new technical institutions does not have any proposals from these UTs/State for setting up of new technical institutions.

In order to mitigate the regional disparities in technical education, the Government has made provisions for reservation of seats in degree and diploma level technical courses for States/UTs lacking such facilities in other States/UTs where such technical education facilities are available. The existing polytechnics in Andaman and Nicobar and Nagaland were supported through a World Bank assisted project called the Third Technician Education Project for capacity expansion, quality enhancement and efficiency improvement. In the XI Plan, it is proposed to have a Central University in each of the 16 States which at present do not have a Central University.

Women trafficking from Assam

*251. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assam accounts for around 48 per cent of the women trafficked out from the North-Eastern Region;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.